

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.121 as follows (see the accompanying "marked up" version pursuant to 1.121).

Please replace the paragraph on page 2 beginning at line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

a1

It is an object of the present invention to provide a stopper device and a telescopic unit which are capable of preventing inadvertent catching.

Please replace the paragraph on page 2 beginning at line 5, with the following amended paragraph:

a2

Briefly stated, the present invention provides a first stopper supporting member, supporting a stopper which controls movement of a second tubular member of a telescopic unit along a first tubular member, which is disposed around the outer surface of the first tubular member. A second stopper supporting member, supporting a stopper which controls movement of a third tubular member along the second tubular member, is disposed around the outer surface of the second tubular member. A facing end of the first stopper supporting member and a facing end of the second stopper supporting member have nearly the same outer diameter. The resulting telescopic unit is both attractive in appearance and free from the problem of being inadvertently caught by another object.